

Baseball returning



Senior baseball is returning to Vernon this summer. Plans are being finalized to revamp the Okanagan Senior Baseball League, and one franchise will be located in Vernon.

A group, led by Gordie Nuyens, is spearheading the local team. Other areas expected to enter clubs are Kelowna and Lumby. Kamloops and Enderby have also expressed interest but, have not yet committed themselves.

Vernon's senior team, the Luckies, hung up their spikes in 1970.

Nuyens would be one of the few veteran members of the club, with the majority of the players between 19 and 23 years old.

Main purpose of the club would be to give players a place to play when they are finished Senior Babe Ruth at 18.

WEEKEND GAMES

The league will be run on a tight budget with only weekend games scheduled. Home games in Kelowna and Kamloops will be played Saturday nights under the lights. Vernon and Lumby would play their home games Sunday afternoons, with Vernon's games at Polson Park.

Nuyens told the Daily News the only thing the club needs right now is a sponsor who is willing to contribute a reasonably small amount of money. He said the club's expenses will be minimal.

There will be certainly no shortage of players on the local squad.

LOTS OF PLAYERS

Some pitching candidates include ex-pro Reg Main, Wayne Dye, and Daryl Leir.

Experienced infielders in the area include Eddie Johnstone, Dye, Ken Holland, Dave Caldow, and Charlie Briskham. Nuyens and Mike McAvoy may handle the behind-the-plate duties with Fred Johnstone, Clark Inglis, Grant Sidnick, and Guy Davison among the qualified outfielders.

League play is scheduled to start in late-May, with the season wrapping up in August.

Another ex-pro, Gerry Reimer, is reportedly in charge of the proposed Enderby team and there appears to be a lot of interest in that tiny city.

So, with a four or five team loop, baseball fans should be treated to some excellent senior ball for the first time, in this area, in five years.